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Governor



KARYN POLITO
Lt. Governor

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Governor Baker Files Legislation To Provide Health Care Workers Liability Protections During COVID-19 Response

BOSTON – Governor Charlie Baker today filed legislation to provide health care workers and facilities protections from civil liability while they are on the front lines of the Commonwealth's COVID-19 response.

The legislation would protect health care professionals, including doctors, nurses, and emergency medical technicians, as well as certain health care facilities from liability and suit when the care that they provide is impacted by the COVID-19 emergency. The bill would also provide protections for the health workers staffing the unique Field Medical Stations being stood up at the DCU Center, Boston Convention & Exhibition Center and other locations.

"Ensuring that our health care workers have the resources and protections they need has been a top priority for our administration since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic," **said Governor Charlie Baker**. "This legislation offers important protections for health care workers and facilities facing the unprecedented challenges that come with the outbreak of this virus, and we look forward to working with our legislative partners to enact this bill and take another step in our efforts to support the Commonwealth's medical system."

"Massachusetts is blessed to be home to some of the world's best health care workers and institutions, and it's important that the fear of liability does not prevent them from delivering the kind of medical response we need during this pandemic," **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito**. "We look forward to working with our colleagues in the Legislature to enact this bill and further support our health care system during this emergency."

Also today, Governor Baker issued a directive that will maximize protections for health care workers under the federal Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act ("PREP Act") during

the state of emergency. The directive will ensure that health care workers and facilities that distribute and administer testing, drugs and medical devices for the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 are protected from suit and liability to the maximum extent possible under the PREP Act.

Click below to read today's legislation and directive:

- [Liability Protection Legislation Filing Letter](#)
- [Liability Protection Legislation](#)
- [Governor's PREP Act Directive](#)

The Baker-Polito Administration will continue to update the public on developments related to COVID-19. Residents can visit www.mass.gov/covid19 for the latest information, call 2-1-1 with questions, and text "COVIDMA" to 888-777 to subscribe to text-alert updates.

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